

## Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 OES-05 EPA-04 CEQ-01 NSF-02

IO-11 OFA-01 ERDA-07 HUD-02 INT-05 HEW-06 DOTE-00

CG-00 AGR-10 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /130 R

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SEN:, US, UR

SUBJ: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT: PROJECT VAYMA, MARINE

MAMMAL (02.05-61): SHIP CRUISE AND AERIAL SURVEYS

1. DURING THE WALRUS-ICE SEAL JANUARY 20-26 CONFERENCE IN MOSCOW THE US GROUP DISCUSSED VARIOUS AERIAL SURVEY PROGRAMS BEING INITIATED IN THE BERING-CHUKCHI SEAS THIS YEAR. DR. CARLETON RAY DESCRIBED THE "BESMEX" PROJECT (PROTOCOL--PAGE 2 OF ENGLISH TEXT) AND CLIFFORD FISCUS DISCUSSED THE "OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM" (OCSEAP) AS WELL AS AERIAL SURVEYS OF LARGHA SEALS (PROTOCOL, PAGE 3). THE US SIDE TENDERED TENTATIVE REPEAT TENTATIVE INVITATIONS TO THE SOVIET SIDE TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE SURVEYS. THE SOVIET SIDE ACKNOWLEDGED THESE INVITATIONS AND INDICATED AN INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN THE SURVEYS, BUT STRESSED THEY WOULD REQUIRE A CONCRETE INVITATION, WITH SOME LEAD TIME IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE

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IN ANY SURVEY FLIGHTS. WE RECOGNIZED THESE CONSTRAINTS AND

INDICATED WE WOULD INFORM ZEMSKIY WHEN WE HAD DEFINITE SCHEDULES WORKED OUT AND COULD MAKE A CONCRETE INVITATION.

WE HAVE NOW CONFIRMED DATES AND AREAS FOR SEVERAL OCSEAP SURVEYS TO TAKE PLACE THIS SPRING. WE WISH TO (1) INFORM ZEMSKIY THAT THESE SURVEYS WILL BE TAKING PLACE, (2) INFORM HIM OF THE APPROXIMATE GEOGRAPHIC AREA TO BE COVERED (WHICH DOES NOT REPEAT NOT INCLUDE SOVIET AIR SPACE), AND (3) TENDER AN INVITATION FOR ONE SOVIET SCIENTIST TO PARTICIPATE, ON A /SENDING SIDE PAYS" BASIS, IN ANY OF THE APRIL SURVEYS. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING TO DR. V.A. ZEMSKIY, DIRECTOR, MARINE MAMMALS LABORATORY,

VNIRO, 17 V. KRASNOSELSKOYA, MOSCOW, B-140, WITH COPIES TO I.V. NIKONOROV (CHIEF OF MAIN DEPARTMENT FOR RAISING AND PROTECTION OF FISH, MINISTRY OF FISHERIES) AND KAZAKOV OF HYDROMET:

2. "DEAR DR. ZEMSKIY: THREE US SCIENTISTS LOOK FORWARD TO JOINING THE SOVIET SEALER/TRAWLER "ZAGORIAN" ON 15 OR 16 MARCH INSIDE THE PROTECTED WATERS OF DUTCH HARBOR, ALASKA. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE SOVIET SCIENTISTS AND CREW DO NOT HAVE VISAS AND THAT THE SHIP WILL NOT TIE UP AT THE DOCK. US SCIENTISTS (FAY, ESTES, AND FERRIN) WILL USE A SMALL BOAT TO REACH THE "ZAGORIAN" WITHIN THE HARBOR AREA. WE LOOK FORWARD TO A PRODUCTIVE CRUISE.

3. TURNING TO ANOTHER SUBJECT, YOU WILL RECALL THAT DURING THE RECENT WALRUS-ICE SEAL CONFERENCE IN MOSCOW, MR. CLIFFORD FISCHUS OF THE US SIDE DISCUSSED AERIAL SURVEYS UNDER THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (OCSEAP) AND TENDERED A TENTATIVE INVITATION TO THE SOVIET SIDE TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE SURVEYS. WE HAVE NOW CONFIRMED PLANS FOR THE FOLLOWING SURVEYS IN MARCH AND APRIL:

A. FROM 13 TO 25 MARCH 1976, THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS), WILL CONDUCT A SURVEY IN THE NORTHERN BERING SEA (USING A "GRUMMAN SUPER GOOSE" AIRCRAFT IN FOUR AREAS: AREA A WHICH LIES BETWEEN 168 AND 178 WEST LONGITUDE AND 61 DEGREES 19' AND 62 DEGREES 37' NORTH LATITUDE; AREA B BETWEEN 165 DEGREES 16' AND 168 DEGREES 00' WEST LONGITUDE AND 61 DEGREES 19' AND 64 DEGREES 20' NORTH LATITUDE; AREA C BETWEEN UNCLASSIFIED

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167 DEGREES 00' AND 170 DEGREES 10' WEST LONGITUDE AND 63 DEGREES 42' AND 64 DEGREES 58' NORTH LATITUDE; AREA D BETWEEN 173 DEGREES 35' AND 177 DEGREES 25' WEST LONGITUDE AND 62 DEGREES 56' AND 64 DEGREES 44' NORTH LATITUDE.

B. DURING THE PERIOD 5-25 APRIL THERE WILL BE THREE AIRCRAFT CONDUCTING SURVEYS IN THE ABOVE AREAS AND ALONG THE BERING SEA ICE FRONT FROM THE ALASKA COAST TO APPROXIMATELY 178 DEGREES

OR 180 DEGREES WEST LONGITUDE; THESE ARE NMFS FLIGHTS IN THE "GRUMMAN SUPER GOOSE" AND "TWIN OTTER" AND ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME FLIGHTS (LED BY JOHN BURNS) IN A "P2V." PLEASE INFORM APPROPRIATE SOVIET AGENCIES OF THESE UPCOMING FLIGHTS AND ADVISE THEM THAT NONE OF THESE FLIGHTS WILL ENTER SOVIET AIR SPACE.

4. WE INVITE PARTICIPATION OF ONE SOVIET SCIENTIST IN ANY OF THESE SURVEY FLIGHTS ON A "SENDING SIDE PAYS" BASIS. IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT THE SCIENTIST WILL ACTUALLY BE ABLE TO MAKE SEVERAL FLIGHTS HE SHOULD PLAN ON STAYING IN ALASKA FOR AT LEAST A TWO-WEEK PERIOD BECAUSE OF THE POTENTIAL FOR SEVERAL DAYS OF BAD WEATHER DURING THIS TIME OF YEAR. THE BASE OF OPERATIONS WILL BE ANCHORAGE, ALASKA. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE LEAD TIME IS TOO SHORT FOR A SOVIET PARTICIPANT IN THE MARCH FLIGHTS, BUT PLEASE ADVISE US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEND A PARTICIPANT ON ANY OF THE APRIL FLIGHTS. IF WE DO NOT HEAR FROM YOU BY 5 APRIL, WE WILL ASSUME THAT YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SEND ANYONE FOR THESE FLIGHTS. WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED OF ALL FUTURE SURVEYS AS THE DATES ARE CONFIRMED. SINCERELY, ROBERT V. MILLER." INGERSOLL

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